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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. A. M. — The parasitic fungus on the common brake is *Xyloma aquilinum* Fries. The fragrant fern is *Aspidium fragrans* Swartz. We could not tell you what the bright green jelly-like moss is, without a specimen; a dried specimen is better than none. — J. L. R.

O. — The *Bruchus* reared from the *Olneya* is *Bruchus nigrinus* of Leconte, and according to Dr. Horn, who named the specimen, is an unpublished species.

G. W. H., Philadelphia. — Dr. Abbott and all other ornithologists of the present day use the names which the systematists of the present time consider the proper ones. There have been many changes in nomenclature since the days of Latham and Wilson, whom you quote, and to know the names of birds only by the names given by them, is like knowing how to spell words in the English language only as Chaucer spelled them. "Frank Forrester" would hardly be quoted by any ornithologist as an authority on matters of scientific nomenclature. At the present time the only standard work on the Birds of North America is that of Baird, Cassin and Lawrence. This work was reissued by the Naturalists' Agency in 1870. See advertisement in this number. This book will also give you in full what you wish to know about the Geese.

J. H. P., Bedford. — The Birds you send are: 1. Lesser Redpoll Linnet, *Agiothus linaria*; 2. Tree Sparrow, *Spizella monticola*.

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